

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following text at page 1, before the paragraph beginning at prenumbered line 10:

This application is a 371 of PCT/EP03/07985, filed July 22, 2003.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, prenumbered line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The present invention relates to a continuously operated process for the purification by distillation of the 1,2-propylene ~~oxide~~ glycol formed as by-product in the preferably coproduct-free synthesis of propylene oxide, in which the mixture formed in the synthesis which contains the 1,2-propylene glycol is separated in a dividing wall column into low-, intermediate- and high-boiling fractions and the 1,2-propylene glycol is taken off as intermediate boiler from the side offtake of the column.

Please insert the following heading at page 1, prenumbered line 16:

DISCUSSION OF THE BACKGROUND

Please insert the following heading at page 3, prenumbered line 5:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following text at page 3, prenumbered line 15:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is an example of a dividing wall column.

FIG. 2 is an example of a dividing wall column comprising two physically separate columns thermally coupled with one another.

FIG. 3 is another example of a dividing wall column comprising two physically separate columns thermally coupled with one another.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION